(b) and (c). New trading accounts have been opened in the name of Russia and Uzbekistan for conducting trade with them. Opening of accounts in the names of other Republics would follow finalisation of Trade Agreements and Banking Agreements with them.

Boycott of Raids by Income Tax Officers

4932. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Gazetted Officers in Income Tax Department are boycotting the income tax raids for the last nine months and thereby causing heavy loss to the exchequer;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken/being taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). A number of serious incidents of violence dunng the course of search operations in 1989 and 1990 led to countrywide protests and agitation by the officers and staff associations of the Income tax Department demanding adequate security to those deputed for search and seizure operations. Suitable administrative steps in this regard have been taken in consultation with the Home Ministry and other Departments as also the State Governments. Normal search and seizure operation have since started from December, 1991.

Even though in a particular case the actual conduct of search may be delayed by a few months, it may not necessarily affect the revenue adversely and the alleged loss cannot therefore be quantified.

[Translation]

Credit Deposit Ration in Rajasthan

4933. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to stated:

(a) the amount deposited in small savings schemes, Life Insurance Corporation of India, Unit Trust of India, nationlised banks and other deposit schemes during each of the last three years and upto February, 29, 1992 in Rajasthan;

(b) the amount invested in various schemes of Rajasthan out of the said deposits;

(c) whether the government propose to invest three fourth of said deposits only on the development projects of the State; and

(d) if not, the reasons, therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the house.

[English]

Cargo Handled by Major Ports

4934. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN:
DR.V. RAJESHWARAN:
SHRI C. SRINIVASAN:
SHRIGOPINATHGAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of cargo handled by the major ports during July 1991 to march, 1992, month-wise and port-wise along with the targets fixed; and